

# Molecular Evolution of Visual Opsin Genes during the Behavioral Shifts between Different Photic Environments in Geckos

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**Abstract** Reptiles are the most morphologically and physiologically diverse tetrapods, with the squamates having the most diverse habitats. Lizard is an important model system for understanding the role of visual ecology, phylogeny and behavior on the structure of visual systems. In this study, we compared three opsin genes (*RH2*, *LWS* and *SWS1*) among 49 reptile species to detect positively selected genes as well as amino acid sites. Our results indicated that visual opsin genes have undergone divergent selection pressures in all lizards and *RH2* and *LWS* suffered stronger positive selection than *SWS1*. Twelve positively selected sites were picked out for *RH2* and *LWS*. Moreover, many diagnostic sites were found between geckos and non-gecko lizards, most of which were located near the positively selected sites and some of them have already been reported to be responsible for significant shifts of the wavelength of maximum absorption ( $\lambda_{\max}$ ). The results indicated that the gecko lineage accelerated the evolution of these genes to adapt to the dim-light environment or nocturnality as well as the switch between nocturnality and diurnality.

**Keywords** Gecko, diurnality, molecular evolution, nocturnality, opsin gene

## 1. Introduction

Reptiles are the most morphologically and physiologically diverse tetrapods, which diverged from early tetrapods in the late Carboniferous period approximately 310–320 million years ago along with adaptive evolution (Hughes, 2008). In particular, squamates represent the most diverse radiation of terrestrial vertebrates and occupy ecologically diverse habitat niches. Even though, most of them rely heavily on vision systems as their primary sensory modality which is closely related to the ability and means to interact with their environments (Fleishman *et al.*, 2011). Vision in vertebrates is especially well studied, and studies of the evolution of their visual pigments have been able to both identify evolutionary changes, and to ascribe such changes to adaptive evolutionary processes (Hughes, 2008).

The vertebrate retina contains two types of photoreceptor: rods which are responsible for dim light and mediate scotopic vision, and cones acting in daylight, which mediate photopic vision and are necessary with color vision (Bowmaker and Hunt, 2006). Comparative studies across all of the major vertebrates groups have detailed that there are one rod pigment *RH1* (rhodopsin) and four cone pigments encoded by distinct opsin gene families: *LWS/MWS* (long/middle-wavelength sensitive opsin gene) maximally sensitive in the red–green spectral region from 490–570 nm, *RH2* (*RH1*-like) sensitive in green from 480–535 nm, *SWS2* (short-wavelength sensitive 2 opsin gene) sensitive in the blue from 410–490 nm and *SWS1* (short-wavelength sensitive 1 opsin gene) sensitive in the violet–ultraviolet from 355–440 nm (Yokoyama *et al.*, 2000).

However, different lifestyles were in harmony with different habitat circumstance and various kinds of visual

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system. For instance, molecular evidence implies that *LWS* was inactivated on at least five cetaceans which are known to adapt to dim-light field dominated by blue light (Meredith *et al.*, 2013). Several groups including cetaceans, pinnipeds, bats, and mole rats, inhabit in low photopic environments, some of which have lost their *SWS1* opsins (Zhao *et al.*, 2009). Furthermore, the significant divergent selection in bats *SWS1* and *LWS* was reported to be occurred in response to echolocation ability and foraging habitat, respectively (Gutierrez *et al.*, 2018). Among Squamata, dedicated fossorial snakes lost all visual opsins other than *RH1*, whereas all other snakes (including less dedicated burrowers) also have functional *SWS1* and *LWS* opsins. In contrast, all lizards, even highly fossorial amphisbaenians express functional *LWS*, *SWS1*, *SWS2*, and *RH1* genes, and most also express *RH2* (Simões *et al.*, 2015).

Lizards provide an important model system for understanding the role of visual ecology, phylogeny and behavior on the structure of visual systems in Squamata (Fleishman and Persons, 2001; Loew *et al.*, 2002; Stuart-Fox *et al.*, 2007; Macedonia *et al.*, 2009). This extensive group includes true chameleons, iguanid lizards, monitor lizards, geckos, and skinks. Some of them are diurnal, and some crepuscular or nocturnal members. Possible changes during transformation of the lifestyle in these reptiles from diurnal to nocturnal have induced some adaptive evolution (Bowmaker, 2008). Therefore, it's notable to explore the evolution of opsin genes owing to lifestyle transformation and understand molecular features and specializations in squamates. For example, *Anolis carolinensis*, a diurnal lizard representative, possesses a complete set of opsin paralogs, however, a nocturnal gecko, *Gekko japonicus* only has three functional opsins: *SWS1*, *LWS*, and *RH2* (Liu *et al.*, 2015). This result from genomic sequence data is consistent with the inference of gecko opsin composition based on the wavelength of maximum absorption ( $\lambda_{\max}$ ) values (Kojima *et al.*, 1992; Loew, 1994) and the experiments which failed to detect any hybridizing band using the chameleon *RH1* and *SWS2* cDNA clones as probes in the gecko genome (Shi *et al.*, 2001). With the loss of *RH1*, the question of which functional opsin is responsible for nocturnal vision in geckos needs to be solved. The amino acid replacement F89C of *RH2* was suggested to allow geckos to receive more light (Liu *et al.*, 2015). However, the evolutionary pattern of opsin they proposed was based on genome data of few species, and more genome data or molecular data from other related species are necessary to determine how particular changes occurred in these opsin genes. In this study, we aimed to further investigate adaptive evolution of gecko opsin genes during their behavior shift between different photic environments by comparing opsin genes among diverse lizard reptiles.

## 2. Material and Methods

**2.1. Taxon Sampling** Samples were collected by fieldwork or obtained by academic exchanges. Taxon sampling for surveys of opsin genes comprised 49 reptile species including 40 lizards (ingroups), 6 snakes and 3 turtles (outgroups), 27 of which were newly sequenced and others were downloaded from GenBank in this study (supplementary Table S1). Sample species includes seventeen geckos, six scincoid lizards; eleven Lacertoidea species; one Anguimorpha lizard; five iguanas; and six snakes. Samples used in the molecular analyses are detailed in supplementary Table S1.

### PCR and Sequence alignment

Genomic DNA was extracted from muscle tissues of each individual following standard phenol/chloroform extraction methods. We attempted to amplify each exon of *RH2*, *LWS* and *SWS1* visual opsin genes using primers newly designed according to the sequences from *Gekko gecko*, *Phelsuma madagascariensis*, and *Anolis carolinensis* (supplementary Table S2–S4). All fragments were amplified in 50  $\mu$ L PCR reactions: 1  $\mu$ L of each primer, 10  $\mu$ mol/L; 1.8  $\mu$ L DNA template, ca. 200–300 ng; 5  $\mu$ L 10  $\times$  PCR buffer ( $Mg^{2+}$ ); 4  $\mu$ L dNTPs, 2.5 mmol/L; 0.5  $\mu$ L Takara *Taq* (Takara Biomedical, Dalian, China) and 36.7  $\mu$ L ddH<sub>2</sub>O. The PCR condition was as follows: 3 min at 94°C followed by 35 cycles of 30 s at 94°C, 30 s at 52–60°C, 90 s at 72°C, and a subsequent 10 min final extension step at 72°C. PCR products were checked by electrophoresis on 1.5% agarose gels and purified with AxyPrep PCR Cleanup Kit (AxyGen MA, USA). Sequencing was carried out bidirectionally on an ABI PRISM 3730 DNA Sequence.

The newly generated sequences were examined by comparison with the published ones by BLAST on NCBI, and then assembled by Lasergene v7.1 (DNASTAR Inc., Madison, WI, USA). After manual editing, all sequences were aligned by MEGA7.0 (Kumar *et al.*, 2016). Totally 431 fragments with high-quality were picked and concatenated to 80 opsin genes, and then analyzed together. The newly sequences were deposited in GenBank under accession numbers KU645203–KU645282 (supplementary Table S1).

**2.2. Molecular evolution analysis** The CODEML program from the PAML 4.9 package (Yang, 2007) was used to estimate the non-synonymous ( $d_N$ ) and synonymous ( $d_S$ ) substitution rates and their respective ratio ( $d_N/d_S$  or  $\omega$ ) for the *RH2*, *LWS* and *SWS1* genes among squamates. The  $\omega$  indicates changes in selective pressures, where  $\omega = 1$ ,  $\omega < 1$  and  $\omega > 1$  corresponds to neutral evolution, purifying and positive selection, respectively. A well-accepted squamate phylogenetic tree was used as a framework tree in our analysis for each gene (Rosler *et al.*, 2011; Pyron *et al.*, 2013; Zheng and Wiens, 2016). Different datasets, dataset IA (all lizards), dataset IB (all squamates), dataset II (only

geckos), and dataset III (non-gecko lizards) were used for PAML analyses to minimize the effects of sampling.

To examine the probabilities of sites under positive selection in three opsin genes, we used site models M8a ( $\beta$  and  $\omega_2 = 1$ ) versus M8 (Swanson *et al.*, 2003; Wong *et al.*, 2004) implemented in the CODEML program of PAML 4.9 (Yang, 2007). The nested models were compared using a likelihood ratio test (LRT) with a  $\chi^2$  distribution. Positively selected sites in the M8 were identified using a Bayes Empirical Bayes (BEB) analysis (Yang *et al.*, 2005) with posterior probabilities  $\geq 0.80$ . Positively selected sites were also detected by fixed effects likelihood (FEL) performed in HYPHY (Pond and Frost, 2005) (via the [www.datamonkey.org](http://www.datamonkey.org) web server), with the default settings of significance levels of 0.2. We then performed selective pressure detection using TreeSAAP v.3.2 (Woolley *et al.*, 2003), which detected selection based on 31 physiochemical amino acid properties. All magnitude category 6–8 changes with  $P \leq 0.05$  were used as an index for the degree of radical amino acid substitutions and positive selection.

To evaluate whether positive selection was restricted to specific squamate lineages, we used branch models (including free-ratio model and two-ratio model) (Yang, 1998; Yang and Nielsen, 1998) and branch-site model implemented in CODEML. The free-ratio model (M1) that assumes an independent  $\omega$  ratio for each branch was compared to the null one-ratio model (M0) with the same  $\omega$  for all branches (Yang and Nielsen, 1998). Two-ratio model and branch-site model require the foreground branches (lineages tested to be under positive selection) and background branches (rest of the lineages) to be defined a priori. The  $\omega$  ratios were estimated for two branch categories (geckos as foreground branches versus non-gecko lizards as background branches) in two-ratio model, and then also compared with the null M0 model. The modified branch-site model A with  $\omega$  varying among sites and among lineages (Zhang *et al.*, 2005) was tested against the null hypothesis of no selection in any of the foreground or background branches. Each squamate lineage across the phylogeny was used as the foreground branch, respectively, where the remaining branches were treated as background branches for each gene. A false discovery rate (FDR) correction for multiple tests was applied to the LRT  $P$  values for branch-site model analysis (Anisimova and Yang, 2007).

**2.3. Sliding Window Analyses** To explore the further heterogeneous selection pressure at *RH2*, *LWS* and *SWS1* opsin genes across squamate phylogeny, we constructed a sliding window analysis using the program SWAAP (Pride, 2000) with window size at 30 bp and step size at 3 bp, which were repeated for several groups of interest. Sliding window analysis was performed to show variation in  $\omega$  value ( $d_n/d_s$ ) along each opsin genes in geckos, non-gecko lizards and all lizards.

**2.4. Mapping of positively selected sites onto opsin 3D structures** To gain insights into the functional significance of these putatively selected sites, we mapped these positive sites onto protein structures. The 3D structures of opsin genes under positive selection were predicted by using the homology modeling software provided on the I-TASSER server (Zhang, 2008). The protein sequences of positively selected genes were derived from the common Tokay gecko (*Gekko gecko*), which were obtained from the GenBank database.

### 3. Results

**3.1. Visual pigment complement** We assembled a dataset of opsin gene sequences for 49 squamates, comprising 17 Gekkota geckos, 6 Scincoidea lizards, 11 Lacertoidea lizards, 1 Anguimorpha lizard, 5 Iguania lizards, 6 Alethinophidia snakes and 3 turtles (outgroups). We have successfully amplified three visual opsin genes (*RH2*, *LWS*, *SWS1*) from genomic DNA of the lizards from 20 families. All sequences were assembled and concatenated correctly for the protein coding region of *RH2*, *LWS*, and *SWS1*, which contain 1065 bp (354 aa), 1110 bp (369 aa), 1044 bp (346 aa), respectively. The sequence alignments had no premature stop codons or frame-shift mutations, which indicated the presence of functional proteins in squamates.

**3.2. Selection on opsin genes** We found M8 that incorporated selection fitted the data better than the neutral model, M8a, at two opsin genes (*RH2* and *LWS*,  $P < 0.05$ ), suggesting that these genes were subjected to positive selection in squamates. However, for *SWS1*, the LRT showed no significant difference between the models M8 and M8a implying no positive selection. Using M8, the most stringent model carried out in PAML, a small proportion of codons (0.84%–10.17%) were estimated to be under selection with average  $\omega$  values of 1.292–2.462 at the two positively selected genes in squamates (Table 1). 3 (0.84%), 36 (10.17%), and 3 (0.84%) positively selected sites were identified respectively by the BEB approach as having posterior probabilities  $\geq 0.80$  at *RH2* in dataset IA (all lizards), dataset II (only gecko), and dataset III (non-gecko lizards). Meanwhile, 6 (1.63%), 7 (1.89%), and 8 (2.17%) positively selected sites were identified respectively at *LWS* in dataset IA, dataset IB (all squamates), and dataset II. However, no positively selected sites were detected at *LWS* in dataset III. When we used a significance threshold of 0.95 for posterior probabilities, the number of positively selected amino acids decreased to two, thirteen, and two for dataset IA, II, and III of *RH2*, while one, one, and two for dataset IA, IB, and II of *LWS*. FEL, performed in HYPHY (Pond and Frost, 2005), was also used to test for selection in the three opsin genes. HYPHY can improve the estimation of the  $\omega$  value by incorporating variation in  $d_s$  whereas  $d_s$  is fixed across sequences for all the PAML-based

**Table 1** Positively selected sites detected using two maximum likelihood (ML) methods across squamate phylogeny.

Genes	Dataset	Test of selection				Sites under selection identified by ML methods			
		$-Ln(M8a)$	$-Ln(M8)$	$-2\Delta L$	$\omega$ value	PAML M8 <sup>a</sup>	FEL <sup>b</sup>	No. of sites <sup>c</sup>	% of sites
<i>RH2</i> (354 aa)	IA: all lizards	8635.191	8629.685	11.012	2.438	<b>169</b> , 209, 213		9	2.54%
	II: only gekkonids	3850.724	3842.002	17.444*	2.111	13, 19, <b>24</b> , <b>39</b> , 41, 49, 50, 86, 88, 97, 100, 104, 108, <b>112</b> , <b>154</b> , <b>158</b> , 166, 168, <b>205</b> , <b>209</b> , 210, <b>213</b> , 214, 216, 259, 263, 270, 271, 273, 279, 282, 286, 290, 292, 299, 336	<b>24</b> , <b>39</b> , <b>112</b> , <b>154</b> , <b>158</b> , 162, <b>169</b> , <b>205</b> , <b>209</b> , <b>213</b>		
	III: non-gecko lizards	5303.745	5299.837	7.816*	2.462	165, 169, 213			
	IA: all lizards	8911.865	8909.803	4.124*	1.307	72, 112, 175, 216, 279, 290	19, 72, 116, 178,	3	0.86%
<i>LWS</i> (369 aa)	IB: all squamates	10231.735	10228.664	6.142*	1.292	31, 112, 175, 216, <b>279</b> , 282, <b>290</b>	186, 233, 241,		
	II: only gekkonids	4165.037	4160.029	10.016*	2.64	31, 112, 175, 182, 188, 229, 279, 282	<b>279</b> , <b>290</b> , 292,		
	III: non-gecko lizards	5445.293	5444.968	0.65 (NS)	1.585	—	351	—	—
	IA: all lizards	7691.336	7690.724	1.22 (NS)	1.447	—	37, 51, 83, 157,	—	—
<i>SWS1</i> (346 aa)	IB: all squamates	9505.075	9505.077	0.04 (NS)	1.916	—	213, 293	—	—
	II: only gekkonids	3324.288	3324.288	0 (NS)	1	—	—	—	—
	III: non-gecko lizards	4752.117	4751.884	0.47 (NS)	1.454	—	—	—	—

The positively selected sites picked out by two methods are shown in bold; \* indicates  $P < 0.05$  whereas NS indicates 'Not significant'; <sup>a</sup> Codons were detected by M8 model in PAML using a Bayes (BEB) analysis with posterior probabilities  $\geq 0.80$ ; <sup>b</sup> Codons were detected by FEL implemented in HYPHY with significance levels of 0.2; <sup>c</sup> No. of sites indicated positively selected sites identified by both ML methods.

analysis. FEL analysis showed that significant signs of positive selection were detected at the three opsin genes with many more positively selection sites than that identified by M8 (Table 1). Combining the two different maximum likelihood (ML) methods, a total of 12 positively selected sites (9 at *RH2* and 3 at *LWS*) were picked out (sites in bold shown in Table 1). Sites that were identified to be under positive selection by two ML methods were regarded as robust candidates for sites under selection. We further employed a complementary protein-level approach implemented in TreeSAAP (Woolley *et al.*, 2003) to evaluated destabilizing radical changes at each robust site. The result showed that 10 of 12 sites (83.88%) have at least three radical changes in properties (Table S5, Table S6)

To evaluate whether positive selection is only limited to particular lineages at the three opsin genes, we first used branch models (including free-ratio and two-ratio models) that allow the  $\omega$  ratio to vary among branches across the phylogeny. The LRT tests showed that relaxation of selective pressure was detected at *RH2* ( $\omega_{\text{geckos}} = 0.296$ ,  $\omega_{\text{non-gecko lizards}} = 0.156$ ) and *LWS* genes ( $\omega_{\text{geckos}} = 0.398$ ,  $\omega_{\text{non-gecko lizards}} = 0.141$ ;  $\omega_{\text{geckos}} = 0.343$ ,  $\omega_{\text{other squamates}} = 0.149$ ) when lineage of geckos was treated as foreground branch and the remaining non-gecko lizards or other squamates were treated as background branches. On the contrary, the *SWS1* ( $\omega = 0.044$ ) was implied to be under very strong purifying selection (data not shown). Using the stringent branch-site model, we found that  $\omega$  was greater than 1 at *RH2* in four terminal branches leading to *Cnemaspis limi*, *Phelsuma laticauda*, *Gekko swinhonis*, and *Fylinia* sp. respectively, among which three were nested in the Gekkota clade (Figure 1, Table S5). As well at *LWS*, evidences of positive selection were examined within lineage Gekkota. The  $\omega$  values were greater than 1 in the last common ancestor (LCA) of Gekkota, terminal branches leading to *Gonatodes annularis*, and leading to *Hemidactylus bowringii* (Figure 1, Table S5). In contrast,

in branch-site model significant signs of positive selection were also examined at *SWS1* in some ancestral branches (LCA of Gekkota, LCA of scincids, LCA of lacertids, LCA of *Hemidactylus*, LCA of *Pachydactylus vansonii* + *Phelsuma*) and in one terminal branch leading to *Phelsuma madagascariensis* (Figure 1, Table S5). Furthermore, each identified branch was detected some codons under positive selection. The results of branch-site models suggested more widespread positive selection across opsin genes in geckos than other squamates. This apparent difference can also be observed in the result of our sliding window analyses, with many peaks significantly greater than 1 for geckos, while the curves were uniformly below 1 for the negative control clades with only one exception (Figure 2).

### 3.3. Spatial distribution of the positively selected residues on opsin 3D structures

A total of 12 radical amino acid changes subjected to positive selection identified by two ML methods were mapped onto the 3D structures of two opsin genes (nine at *RH2* and 3 at *LWS*). Opsins are G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs), which contains seven  $\alpha$ -helical transmembrane domains, an extracellular domain, and an intracellular domain to coupled (Terakita, 2005). We found that 11 of the 12 (91.67%) positively selected sites were localized in the  $\alpha$ -helical transmembrane domains (supplementary Figure S1).

### 3.4. Diagnostic amino acid sites between geckos and non-gecko lizards

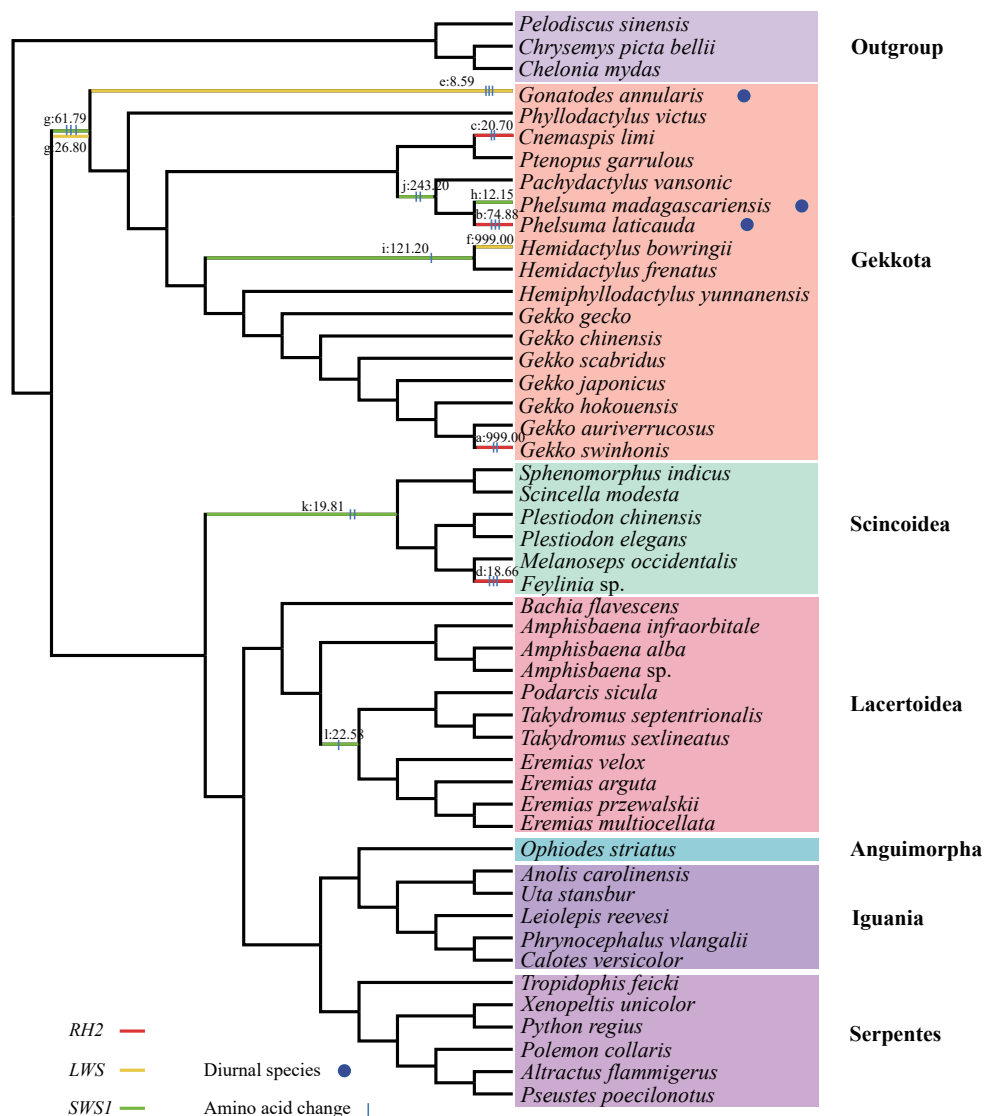
We also compared the amino acid sequences of the three opsin genes between geckos and non-gecko lizards to obtain the information of diagnostic sites. As shown in Table 2, when putting nocturnal and diurnal geckos together, 16 amino acid residues of *RH2* differed from those of non-gecko lizards (at residue 40, 41, 42, 43, 49, 50, 54, 56, 60, 64, 83, 85, 98, 285, 289, and 300, on a gray background in Table 2). However, residues 89 and 101 in diurnal geckos represented both status



**Table 2** Comparison of the diagnostic amino acid sites between the opsin genes of geckos and non-gecko lizards.

Gene		Codon position																		
RH2		40	41 <sup>*</sup>	42	43	49 <sup>*</sup>	50 <sup>*</sup>	54	56	60	64	83	85	89	98	101	285	289	300	
Geckos	nocturnal	L	S/A	F/L	M	V/I/A	V/A	L	G	F	Q	N	L/V	C	S	A	V	T	I/V	
	diurnal	L	S/T	F/L	M	I/L	V/I	L	G	F	Q	N	L	C/F	S	A/G	V	T	V	
Non-gecko lizards		diurnal	V/I	C	V/C	I	S/F	T	I	I/L/F	L	K	D	F	F	A	G	A	A/S	L
Gene		Codon position					Gene		Codon position											
LWS		220	225	281 <sup>a</sup>	298	321	SWS1		11	19	56	57	76	85 <sup>b</sup>	92 <sup>b</sup>	128	149			
Geckos	nocturnal	C	L	F	N	Y	Geckos	nocturnal	A	F	A	A	A/V	A	S	L	S/T			
	diurnal	C	L	F	H/Y	W		diurnal	A/S/T	F	A	A	A	A/S	S	M	S			
Non-gecko lizards		diurnal	V/I	V/I	Y	N	Y	Non-gecko lizards	diurnal	E	W	V	T	T	S	A	F	L/M		

<sup>\*</sup> indicates positively selected sites by M8 model in PAML. Underlined sites are reported spectral tuning sites; <sup>a</sup> corresponding to site 277 in Yokoyama and Radlwimmer, 1998; <sup>b</sup> corresponding to sites 90 and 97 in Yokoyama *et al.*, 2006.



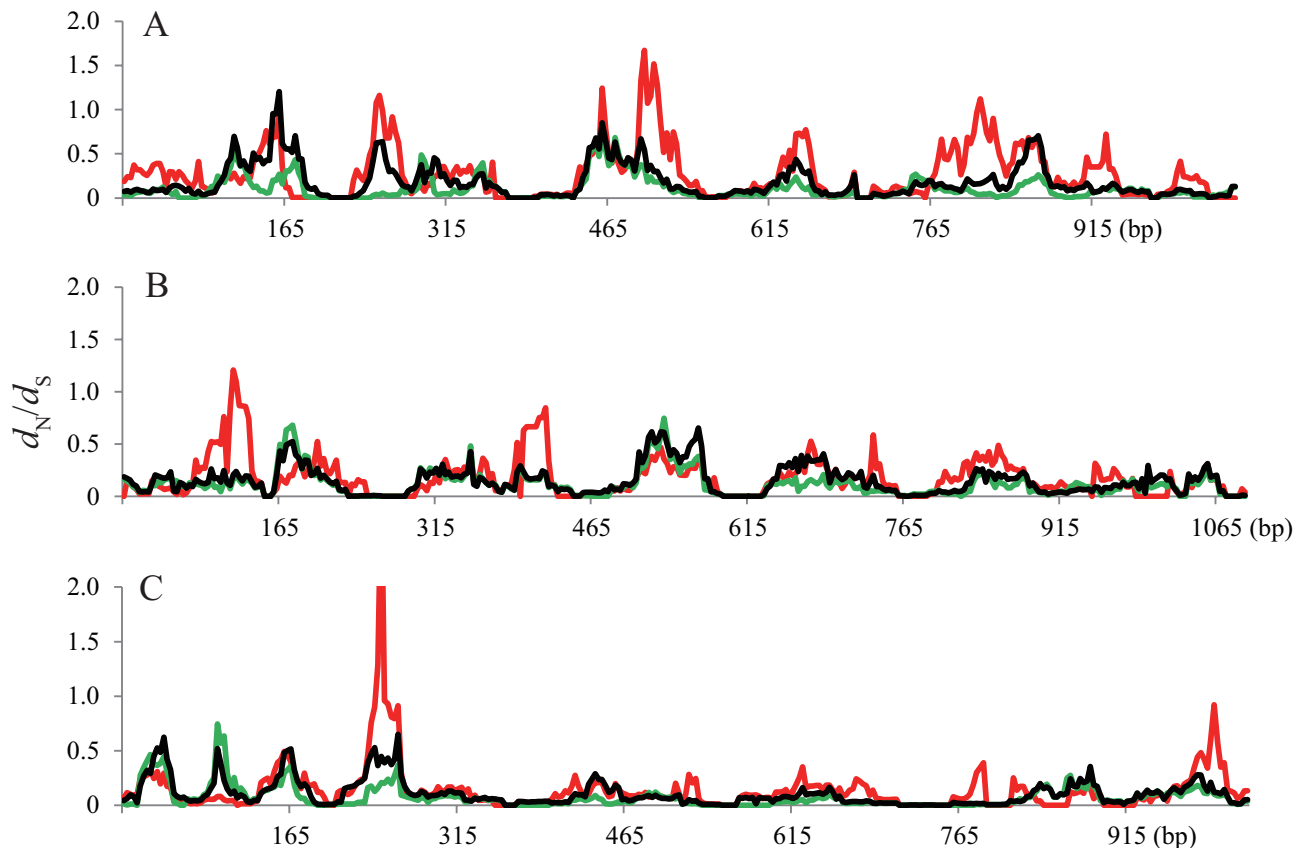
**Figure 1** Evidences of positive selection across Squamata phylogeny identified by branch-site model are shown. Three genes are marked with different colors, i.e., *RH2* (red), *LWS* (yellow), and *SWS1* (green). The  $\omega$  values greater than 1 for individual lineage according to free-ratio and two-ratio are shown. Amino acid changes identified using TreeSAAP across colored branch were indicated by blue vertical lines. The circles were on behalf of diurnal genera in geckos. All detailed results were listed in supplementary Table S5.

found in nocturnal geckos (89C, 101A) and non-gecko lizards (89F, 101G), indicating an intermediate status (shown on a dark blue background). Among all these amino acid residues, three sites (41, 49, and 50, with a star in Table 2) were identified as positively selected sites by M8 model in PAML, and most of the rest are surrounding the positively selected sites. Moreover, certain changes at three sites (49, 83, and 89, underlined in Table 2) have already been reported to cause significant  $\lambda$ max-shifts in various visual pigments during vertebrate evolution (Yokoyama *et al.*, 2007; Takenaka and Yokoyama, 2007). Furthermore, the amino acid in codon position 89 has been reported to be an important functional determinant of rod and cone visual pigments (Yokoyama and Blow, 2001), and the amino acid replacements F89C enables RH2 to have rod pigment-specific biochemical characteristics (Yokoyama and Blow, 2001; Yokoyama and Tada, 2010). F89C was found in all geckos included in this study except one diurnal species (*Gonatodes annularis*). For LWS and SWS1, three and eight diagnostic sites can distinguish geckos and non-gecko lizards, respectively, and one to two sites have been reported to be important spectral tuning sites (Yokoyama and Radlwimmer, 1998; Yokoyama *et al.*, 2006). Among these sites at SWS1, in diurnal geckos both 85A (same to nocturnal gecko) and 85S (same to diurnal lizards) were detected. Besides, two sites which

are shared between nocturnal gecko and diurnal lizards (298N and 321Y) were totally different in diurnal geckos (298H/Y and 321W, respectively) (on a light blue background in Table 2).

#### 4. Discussion

Most vertebrates use a combination of rod and cone photoreceptors to enable vision in conditions ranging from starlight to direct sunlight. However, geckos are known to possess a mix of all-rod (nocturnal geckos) or all-cone retinas (diurnal geckos), which are all suggested to be evolutionary derived from cones by both morphological and molecular data (Roll, 2000; Roll, 2001b; Zhang *et al.*, 2006). Based on comparative retinal and photoreceptor morphology, Walls (1942) proposed a scenario for the evolution of photoreceptors in geckos that originated with the loss of rods in a diurnal ancestor of geckos, resulting in an all-cone retina. From this diurnal all-cone state, ancestral geckos transitioned to nocturnality and evolved an all-rod retina through photoreceptor transmutation. Some extant gecko lineages subsequently reverted back to diurnality and re-evolved all-cone retinas through transmutation of the “rods” back into cones (Schott *et al.*, 2019). Recent genome researches provided the evidence of a *RH1* deficiency at the genome level in nocturnal geckos (Hara *et al.*, 2018; Liu *et al.*,



**Figure 2** Sliding Window Analyses with window size at 30 bp and step size at 3 bp to show variation in  $\omega$  value ( $d_N/d_S$ ) along each opsin genes (A: RH2, B: LWS, C: SWS1) between only geckos (Red), non-gecko lizards (Green) and all lizards (Black).

2015), and the loss of *RH1* occurred earlier than that of *SWS2*, which was in agreement with the hypothesis that the ancestors of modern geckos were diurnal lizards without rod opsin (Liu *et al.*, 2015). Moreover, the F89C amino acid substitution in *RH2* gene shared between the Madagascar ground gecko and Japanese gecko suggested a possible functional switch or compensatory change in cone pigment of geckos that allow them to receive more light (Hara *et al.*, 2018; Liu *et al.*, 2015). However, the evolution pattern of opsin functional switch was proposed based on genome data of few species. More data from more related species are needed.

As well known, most lizards are strictly diurnal like iguanids, chameleonids, agamids, scincids, lacertids, anguids, pygopodids, and varanids (Roll, 2001a). However, as the largest extant lizard families, most geckos are nocturnal, with some lineages have been reversed back to diurnal. In this study, three opsin genes (*RH1*, *SWS1*, and *LWS*) from nocturnal as well as diurnal geckos, and several lizard species were sampled and analyzed to further investigate the possibly important amino acid changes during evolution or adaptation.

Site models (M8) identified 9 and 3 codons as robust sites under positive selection by at least two Maximum Likelihood methods for *RH2* and *LWS* respectively. However, model M8 failed to identify any positively selected sites for *SWS1* opsin (Table 1), suggesting somewhat purifying selection on *SWS1* opsin gene. In Branch-site model,  $\omega$  was found to be greater than 1 at *RH2* in four terminal branches, among which three were nested in the Gekkota clade. Similarly at *LWS*, evidences of positive selection were examined within lineage Gekkota (Figure 1). Moreover, significant signs of positive selection were also examined at *SWS1* in some ancestral branches and some codons under positive selection were found which were not supported by the site model. Both of the results of branch-site models and the sliding window analyses supported more positive selection across opsin genes in gecko lineage than in non-gecko lizards.

Among geckos, there are only 15 genera being diurnal (such as *Phelsuma*, *Sphaerodactylus*, and *Gonatodes*) that have pure-cone retinas as a consequence of a change of their habitat (Roll, 2001a). Previous researches revealed difference in anatomical of the retina between nocturnal and diurnal geckos. They pointed that nocturnal geckos had photoreceptors with large rod-shaped outer segments and colored oil droplets in the inner segment whereas diurnal species had much smaller somewhat more cone-like outer segments and colorless oil droplets (Roll, 2000; 2001a). However, our results provided an additional molecular supplement of the opsin genes between nocturnal and diurnal geckos. In all our samples, three species (*Gonatodes annularis*, *Phelsuma madagascariensis*, and *Phelsuma laticatus*) on behalf of diurnal genera had undergone stronger adaptive selection than

others geckos resulting in transformation of diurnal ambient light (Figure 1). Previous researches have suggested that *RH2* opsin amino acid site 89 is an important functional determinant of rod and cone visual pigments (Shi *et al.*, 2001), and the amino acid replacements F89C in geckos enables *RH2* to have rod pigment-specific biochemical characteristics to allow them to receive more light in dim-light environment (Kojima *et al.*, 1992; Shi *et al.*, 2001; Yokoyama and Tada, 2010; Liu *et al.*, 2015; Hara *et al.*, 2018). But these researches are based on the comparison of few opsin sequences. In our study, comparing the orthologous *RH2* pigment among 39 species, we deduced that all geckos have amino acid site 89C except *G. annularis* (diurnal) and all non-gecko lizards were 89F (Table 2). 89 F in *G. annularis* is likely to be the result of reversion due to the re-adaptation to daylight. Similar change was also found at site 85 in *SWS1*, which was also a reported spectral tuning site. Furthermore, we also found sites like 298 and 321 in *LWS*, where nocturnal gecko and diurnal lizards share the same residue; however diurnal geckos have different residues. These changes are likely to occur during the evolution of geckos from nocturnality to diurnality.

In conclusion, our results indicate that opsin genes are under different selection pressures in all lizards, and gecko lineage has accelerated the evolution of these genes to adapt to the dim-light environment or nocturnality as well as the switch between nocturnality and diurnality. We compared amino acid sequences of three opsin genes (*RH2*, *SWS1*, and *LWS*) from representatives of many extant lizard families, which provide clues and evidences for further study of the molecular specialization and evolution to response to different lifestyle (nocturnal or diurnal) in geckos.

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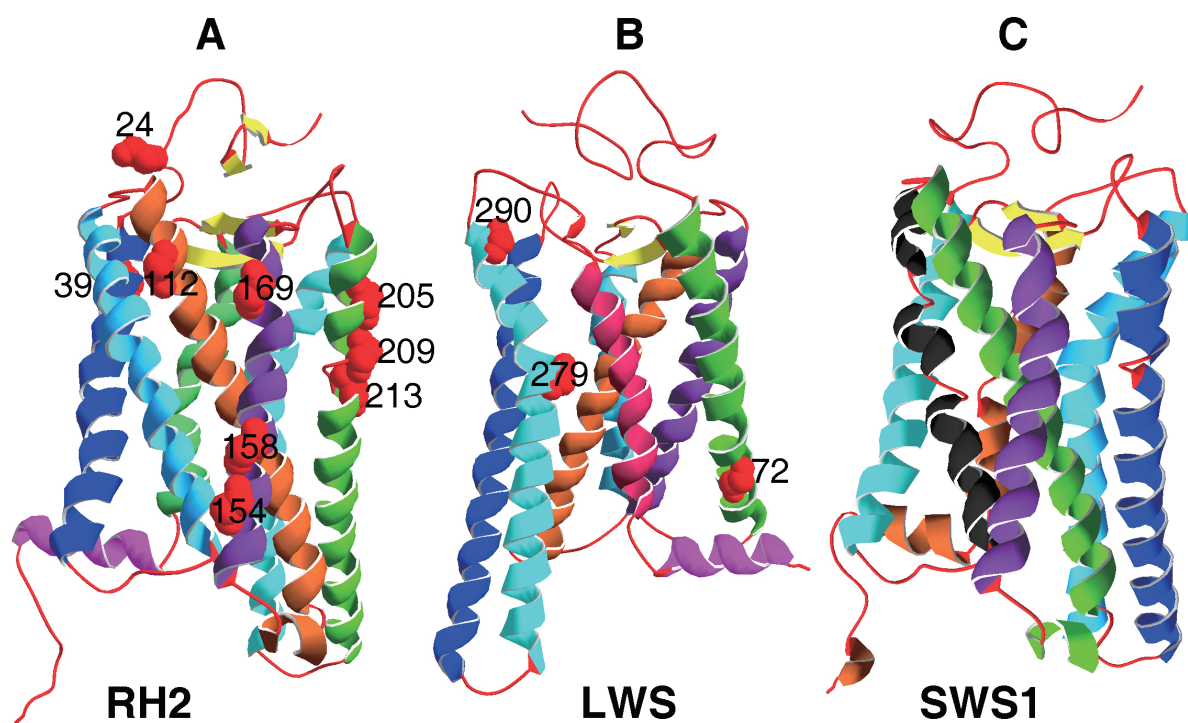
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## Appendix



**Figure S1** The predicted three dimensional structures (ribbon diagram) of RH2, LWS, and SWS1.  $\alpha$ -helices,  $\beta$ -sheets, and loops are represented by spirals, arrows, and lines, and are coloured in different colours, yellow, and red, respectively. A: RH2; B: LWS; C: SWS1. The positive selection sites (24, 39, 112, 154, 158, 169, 205, 209, 213 for RH2; and 72, 279, 290 for LWS) are marked with red globes.

**Table S1** Samples with taxon and Genbank accession number. Sequences newly generated for this study are indicated in bold.

Clade/Higher Taxon	Species	Accession Numbers		
		<i>RH2</i>	<i>LWS</i>	<i>SWS1</i>
Gekkota (17 species)	<i>Hemiphyllodactylus yunnanensis</i>	<b>KU645203</b>	<b>KU645230</b>	<b>KU645257</b>
	<i>Hemidactylus bowringii</i>	<b>KU645204</b>	<b>K-U645231</b>	<b>KU645258</b>
	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	<b>KU645205</b>	<b>KU645232</b>	<b>KU645259</b>
	<i>Gekko auriverrucosus</i>	<b>KU645206</b>	<b>KU645233</b>	<b>KU645260</b>
	<i>Gekko hokouensis</i>	<b>KU645207</b>	<b>KU645234</b>	<b>KU645261</b>
	<i>Gekko scabridus</i>	<b>KU645208</b>	<b>KU645235</b>	<b>KU645262</b>
	<i>Gekko swinhonis</i>	<b>KU645209</b>	<b>KU645236</b>	<b>KU645263</b>
	<i>Gekko japonicus</i>	<b>KU645210</b>	<b>KU645237</b>	<b>KU645264</b>
	<i>Gekko chinensis</i>	<b>KU645211</b>	<b>KU645238</b>	<b>KU645265</b>
	<i>Gekko gecko</i>	M92035	M92036	AY024356
	<i>Phelsuma madagascariensis</i>	AF074044	AF074043	AF074045
	<i>Phelsuma laticauda</i>	<b>KU645212</b>	<b>KU645239</b>	<b>KU645266</b>
	<i>Cnemaspis limi</i>	<b>KU645213</b>	<b>KU645240</b>	<b>KU645267</b>
	<i>Ptenopus garrulous</i>	<b>KU645214</b>	<b>KU645241</b>	<b>KU645268</b>
	<i>Pachydactylus vansonici</i>	<b>KU645215</b>	<b>KU645242</b>	<b>KU645269</b>
	<i>Phyllodactylus victus</i>	<b>KU645216</b>	<b>KU645243</b>	<b>KU645270</b>
	<i>Gonatodes annularis</i>	<b>KU645217</b>	<b>KU645244</b>	<b>KU645271</b>
Scincoidea (6 species)	<i>Plestiodon chinensis</i>	<b>KU645218</b>	<b>KU645245</b>	<b>KU645272</b>
	<i>Plestiodon elegans</i>	<b>KU645219</b>	<b>KU645246</b>	<b>KU645266</b>
	<i>Melanoseps occidentalis</i>	KR336743	KR336713	KR336718
	<i>Feylinia</i> sp.	KR336742	KR336714	KR336717
	<i>Sphenomorphus indicus</i>	<b>KU645220</b>	<b>KU645247</b>	<b>KU645273</b>
	<i>Scincella modesta</i>	<b>KU645221</b>	<b>KU645248</b>	<b>KU645274</b>
Lacertoidea (11 species)	<i>Amphisbaena infraorbitale</i>	KR336730	KR336704	KR336719
	<i>Amphisbaena alba</i>	KR336729	KR336705	KR336720
	<i>Amphisbaena</i> sp.	KR336728	KR336706	KR336721
	<i>Bachia flavescens</i>	KR336731	KR336703	KR336715
	<i>Takydromus septentrionalis</i>	<b>KU645222</b>	<b>KU645249</b>	<b>KU645275</b>
	<i>Takydromus sexlineatus</i>	KR336727	KR336707	KR336722
	<i>Podarcis sicula</i>	AY941829	--	--
	<i>Eremias multiocellata</i>	<b>KU645223</b>	<b>KU645250</b>	<b>KU645276</b>
	<i>Eremias velox</i>	<b>KU645224</b>	<b>KU645251</b>	<b>KU645277</b>
	<i>Eremias przewalskii</i>	<b>KU645225</b>	<b>KU645252</b>	<b>KU645278</b>
	<i>Eremias arguta</i>	<b>KU645226</b>	<b>KU645253</b>	<b>KU645279</b>
Anguimorpha	<i>Ophiodes striatus</i>	KR336732	KR336708	KR336716
Iguania (5 species)	<i>Leiolepis reevesi</i>	<b>KU645227</b>	<b>KU645254</b>	<b>KU645280</b>
	<i>Phrynocephalus vlangualii</i>	<b>KU645228</b>	<b>KU645255</b>	<b>KU645281</b>
	<i>Calotes versicolor</i>	<b>KU645229</b>	<b>KU645256</b>	<b>KU645282</b>
	<i>Anolis carolinensis</i>	NM001291394	U08131	XM_003229162
	<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	DQ100324	DQ129869	DQ100325
Serpentes (6 species)	<i>Tropidophis feicki</i>	--	KR336709	KR336723
	<i>Xenopeltis unicolor</i>	--	FJ497235	FJ497234
	<i>Python regius</i>	--	FJ497238	FJ497237
	<i>Polemon collaris</i>	--	KR336710	KR336724
	<i>Pseustes poecilonotus</i>	--	KR336711	KR336725
	<i>Atractus flammigerus</i>	--	KR336712	KR336726
Testudines (3 species)	<i>Pelodiscus sinensis</i>	XM_006119345	--	XM_006110204
	<i>Chrysemys picta bellii</i>	XM_005309675	XM_005281282	XM_005281289
	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	XM_007063507	--	XM_007067421

**Table S2** Primers for *RH2* exons amplification from genomic DNA.

Exons	Primers	Sequence 5'-3'
Exon1	RH21-F1	5'-ATGAATGGAACAGAAGG-3'
	RH21-R1	5'-CTCCAATTGTTGCAAAGAA-3'
Exon2	RH22-F1	5'-GTCAAGTTGCACTCTGGTC-3'
	RH22-R1	5'-CTGGACCAACCAAACAG-3'
Exon3	RH23-F1	5'-RTWTATACCTGAGGGRATGCA-3'
	RH23-R2	5'-CTCTCGAACTTTGCATATGAG-3'
Exon4	RH24-F1	5'-GCAGCTGCTCAGCARCAGGA-3'
	RH24-R1	5'-CTGTTTGTTCAWGAGGACATA-3'
Exon5	RH25-A1	5'-TTCCGTAAYTGCATGRTCACCA-3'
	RH25-AS1	5'-CTATGCAGGTGMCACCTTGGCTGGA-3'

**Table S3** Primers for *LWS* exons amplification from genomic DNA.

Exons	Primers	Sequence 5'-3'
Exon1	LWS1-F3	5'-ATGACGGAAGCCTGGAACGT-3'
	LWS1-R1	5'-CCCGGGTGTTGTTGGT-3'
Exon2	LWS2-F1	5'-GCCCTTTCGAWGGTCCAACTAT-3'
	LWS12-R3	5'-CGCAAGAGGATACGACGTACC-3'
Exon3	LWS3-F2	5'-GTATCACAGGCCTCTGGTC-3'
	LWS3-R2	5'-CTACTCCAGCCAAAGATGGG-3'
Exon4	LWS4-F1	5'-GTACTGGCCYCAVGGTCTGAAGA-3'
	LWS4-R1	5'-CGCACGRATMGCCAMCCACACTTG-3'
Exon5	LWS5-F2	5'-GTNGCYGCCCAGCAGAAAGA-3'
	LWS5-R2	5'-CTGTCTGTTTCATGAAGACGTAG-3'
Exon6	LWS6-F1	5'-TTCCGTAAGTGCATAWTGC-3'
	LWS6-R2	5'-TTATGCGGTGATACAGAGGA-3'

**Table S4** Primers for *SWS1* exons amplification from genomic DNA.

Exons	Primers	Sequence 5' – 3'
Exon1	SWS11-S21	5'-ATGTCYGGAGAAGAAGACTTC-3'
	SWS11-R2	5'-CTGCTAGGGAGCCGAGGAAGGCCTCCA-3'
Exon2	SWS12-F1	5'-GBCTGGTCACYGGCTGGTC-3'
	SWS12-R1	5'-CTGCTCCACCCGAAAGAGGG-3'
Exon3	SWS13-F1	5'-GTTTCATCCCGAGGGCCT-3'
	SWS13-R2	5'-GGCYCGAAGKGC GCCCAGGAGCTG-3'
Exon4	SWS14-F2	5'-GTAGCCGTCAGCARCAGGAGT-3'
	SWS14-R1	5'- CTGTTTGTTCATGAAGCA-3'
Exon5	SWS15-F1	5'-TTCCGAGGTTGCATCTTGGA-3'
	SWS15-R1	5'-TTAGCTGGGGCTGACCTG-3'



**Table S5** Positive selection detected base on branch-site model in all squamates.

Genes	lineages	Models	-lnL	2ΔlnL	P values	ω values	Positively selected sites
RH2	a. <i>G.swinhonis</i>	Ma0	8698.916	7.692	0.006	ω0=0.025,ω1=1,ω2=1	137I 0.854, 158A 0.606
		Ma	8695.070			ω0=0.025,ω1=1,ω2= <b>999.00</b>	
	b. <i>P.laticauda</i>	Ma0	8698.929	4.486	0.034	ω0=0.025,ω1=1,ω2=1	25E 0.855, 108I 0.666, 180P 0.732
		Ma	8696.686			ω0=0.025,ω1=1,ω2= <b>74.877</b>	
	c. <i>C.limi</i>	Ma0	8696.808	4.466	0.035	ω0=0.024,ω1=1,ω2=1	<b>199 H 0.991**</b>
		Ma	8694.575			ω0=0.024,ω1=1,ω2= <b>20.700</b>	
	d. <i>F.sp.</i>	Ma0	8695.962	5.164	0.023	ω0=0.025,ω1=1,ω2=1	<b>96 Y 0.972*</b>
		Ma	8693.380			ω0=0.025,ω1=1,ω2= <b>18.660</b>	
	e. <i>G.annularis</i>	Ma0	10298.420	4.65	0.031	ω0=0.03,ω1=1,ω2=1	166I 0.533, 230S 0.731, 275V 0.899, <b>280A 0.994**</b> , 292V 0.598, 296A 0.775, 298N 0.739, <b>321Y 0.995**</b>
		Ma	10296.095			ω0=0.03,ω1=1,ω2= <b>8.593</b>	
LWS	f. <i>H.bowringii</i>	Ma0	10307.880	8.428	0.0037	ω0=0.032,ω1=1,ω2=1	157F 0.817, 166I 0.687, 170S 0.810, 186 A 0.513
		Ma	10303.666			ω0=0.031,ω1=1,ω2= <b>999.00</b>	
	g. Gekkota	Ma0	10305.616	4.166	0.041	ω0=0.031,ω1=1,ω2=1	217E 0.654, <b>220C 0.990**</b> , 281F 0.670
		Ma	10303.533			ω0=0.031,ω1=1,ω2= <b>26.797</b>	
SWS1	h. <i>P.madagascariensis</i>	Ma0	9721.061	4.984	0.026	ω0=0.034,ω1=1,ω2=1	11A 0.559, 94S 0.660, 179Q 0.945, 208 I 0.535, 223 S 0.602, 258 L 0.909
		Ma	9718.569			ω0=0.034,ω1=1,ω2= <b>12.145</b>	
	i. <i>Hemidactylus</i>	Ma0	9722.434	8.53	0.0035	ω0=0.035,ω1=1,ω2=1	<b>15 S 0.998**</b> , 20 D 0.539, 232 Q 0.504
		Ma	9718.169			ω0=0.035,ω1=1,ω2= <b>121.203</b>	
	j. <i>Phelsuma+ P.vansonic</i>	Ma0	9723.784	10.018	0.0016	ω0=0.035,ω1=1,ω2=1	51 A 0.736, 179 Q 0.719, 258 L 0.703, 322 A 0.801
		Ma	9718.775			ω0=0.035,ω1=1,ω2= <b>243.195</b>	
	g. Gekkota	Ma0	9719.132	7.242	0.0071	ω0=0.034,ω1=1,ω2=1	11 A 0.597, <b>19 F 0.975*</b> , <b>76 A 0.985*</b> , 128 L 0.500, 149 S 0.873
		Ma	9715.511			ω0=0.034,ω1=1,ω2= <b>61.788</b>	
	k. Scincidae	Ma0	9721.746	6.214	0.0127	ω0=0.035,ω1=1,ω2=1	<b>15 S 0.991**</b> , <b>37 A 0.973*</b>
		Ma	9718.639			ω0=0.035,ω1=1,ω2= <b>19.809</b>	
	l. Lacertinae	Ma0	9721.543	10.052	0.0015	ω0= 0.035,ω1=1,ω2=1	<b>15S 0.994**</b> , <b>292S 0.990**</b>
		Ma	9716.517			ω0=0.035,ω1=1,ω2= <b>22.583</b>	

Note: Sites with  $P > 0.95$  and  $\omega_2 > 1$  are indicated in bold. Any P value higher than 0.99 was designated with two (\*\*) asterisks, and P value between 0.95 and 0.99 was designated with one (\*) asterisk.

**Table S6** Amino acid sites identified as positively selected sites detected using PAML, Datamonkey and TreeSAAP at *RH2*, *LWS* and *SWS1* opsin genes.

Gene	AA <sup>a</sup>	PAML ( $P > 0.8$ ) <sup>b</sup>		Datamonkey <sup>c</sup>			TreeSAAP <sup>d</sup>	
		Site model	Branch-site model	SLAC ( $P < 0.2$ )	FEL ( $P < 0.2$ )	REL ( $P > 50$ )	Amino Acid Properties	AA change
<i>RH2</i>	13	0.827					$h_p$	L→H
	19	0.939						
	24	0.872			0.13		$F$	F→Y
							$F$	Y→F
	25		0.855				$P$	E→D
	39	0.924		0.134	0.043	977.02	$N_s B_r pK' R_a H_r H_i$	I→T
							$P_\beta$	V→A
							$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	V→I
							$pK'$	I→L
	41	0.853					$P_\alpha P_\beta P$	S→A
							$N_s B_r \mu$	C→S
	49	0.991				118.56	$P_\beta$	V→A
							$R_j P_c F R_a H_r P$	F→S
							$R_j P_c F R_a H_r P$	S→F
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	V→I
	50	0.949					$P_\alpha$	T→A
							$N_s B_r pK' R_a H_r H_i$	T→I
							$P_\beta$	A→V
	86	0.854					$P_\alpha$	M→T
	88	0.997					$R_j c R_a P$	C→I
	96		0.972				$R_j c E_{sm}$	Y→C
							$H_i$	Y→T
	97	0.901					$P_\alpha$	T→A
							$P_\alpha$	A→T
	100	0.951					$pH_i$	N→Y
							$a_c$	Y→H
	104	0.927					$pK'$	V→I
							$pK'$	I→V
	108	0.947					$N_s B_r pK' R_a H_r H_i$	I→T
							$pK' R_a$	I→A
							$pK'$	M→I
							$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	I→V
	112	0.813			0.046		$pK'$	V→I
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	I→L
	137		0.854				$pK'$	I→V
	154	0.807			0.144		$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	M→I
							$pK'$	L→I
							$pK'$	I→L
	158	0.952		0.028	0.004	1319.1	$P_\alpha P_\beta P$	A→G
							$P_\alpha P_\beta P$	G→A
							$P_\alpha N_c K'^0 pK' a_n$	A→C
							$P_\alpha P_\beta P$	S→A
							$P_\alpha P_\beta P$	A→S
							$P_\alpha$	A→T
							$P_\beta$	A→V
	162				0.198	257.8	$P_\beta$	V→A

(Continued Table S6)

Gene	AA <sup>a</sup>	PAML ( $P > 0.8$ ) <sup>b</sup>		Datamonkey <sup>c</sup>			TreeSAAP <sup>d</sup>	
		Site model	Branch-site model	SLAC ( $P < 0.2$ )	FEL ( $P < 0.2$ )	REL ( $P > 0.5$ )	Amino Acid Properties	AA change
RH2	165	0.944					$pK'$	L→I
	166	0.886					$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	S→A
							$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	A→S
							$N_{\epsilon}B_{\mu}$	S→C
	168	0.825					$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	A→G
							$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	A→S
	169	0.988		0.153	0.046	630.54	$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	A→G
							$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	G→A
							$P_{\alpha}N_{\epsilon}K^0pK'a_n$	A→C
							$P_{\alpha}N_{\epsilon}K^0pK'a_n$	C→A
							$N_{\epsilon}pK'F_{\mu}$	G→C
							$P_{\beta}B_{\mu}FR_{\alpha}P$	G→V
	199		0.991				F	H→S
	205	0.983		0.117	0.096	482.93	$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	V→I
	209	0.996		0.171	0.186	165.95	$N_{\epsilon}B_{\mu}pK'R_{\alpha}H_{\mu}H_i$	I→T
							$P_{\beta}B_{\mu}FR_{\alpha}P$	V→G
							$pK'$	M→I
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	V→I
							$pK'$	I→L
	210	0.911					$P_{\beta}B_{\mu}FR_{\alpha}$	V→G
							$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	M→I
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	V→I
	213	0.998		0.064	0.033	185.22	$N_{\epsilon}B_{\mu}pK'R_{\alpha}H_{\mu}H_i$	I→T
							$N_{\epsilon}R_{\alpha}$	T→V
							$N_{\epsilon}R_{\alpha}$	V→T
							$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	V→I
	214	0.998					$N_{\epsilon}B_{\mu}pK'R_{\alpha}H_{\mu}H_i$	I→T
							$N_{\epsilon}R_{\alpha}$	V→T
							$pK'$	V→I
							$pK'$	I→V
	216	0.903						
	251		0.893				$pHE_i$	T→K
	259	0.938						
	263	0.953					$R_{\epsilon}pK'a_n$	L→C
	270	0.94				202.77	$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	A→G
							$P_{\alpha}$	A→T
							$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}P$	A→S
							$P_{\beta}$	V→A
							$pK'$	V→I
	271	0.972					$P_{\alpha}$	A→T
							$N_{\epsilon}R_{\alpha}$	T→A
							$P_{\beta}$	V→A
	273	0.912					$R_j$	F→C
							$K^0$	F→A
	279	0.822						
	282	0.919					$K^0P_{\alpha}PEP$	D→A
							$P$	D→E
							$P$	E→D
	286	0.989					$P_{\alpha}$	T→A

(Continued Table S6)

Gene	AA <sup>a</sup>	PAML ( $P > 0.8$ ) <sup>b</sup>		Datamonkey <sup>c</sup>			TreeSAAP <sup>d</sup>	
		Site model	Branch-site model	SLAC ( $P < 0.2$ )	FEL ( $P < 0.2$ )	REL ( $P > 50$ )	Amino Acid Properties	AA change
RH2							$P_a$	T→M
							$P_a P_r$	T→E
	290	0.996					$pK'$	V→I
							$pK'$	I→V
	292	0.937					$P_a P_c P$	A→S
							$P_a$	A→T
	299	0.956					$P_a P_c P$	S→A
							$N_B \mu$	S→C
							$N_B \mu$	C→S
	336	0.974						
LWS	19			0.127	0.049		$pK' p H_i M_v M_w H_{nc} V^0 \mu E_{sm} E_t$	R→G
							$pK' p H_i V^0 E_{sm}$	R→S
							$E_{sm}$	R→H
	31	0.936					$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	V→I
	59	0.917					$pK'$	L→I
							$pK'$	I→L
	63	0.951						
	72	0.819		0.144	0.048		$N_s P_\beta B_c$	C→T
							$R_c$	F→C
							$R_c p K' R_a P$	C→V
							$R_c p K' R_a P$	V→C
							$pK'$	V→I
	101	0.894						
	112	0.978					$N_s P_\beta B_i P_c F R_a H_i P$	V→S
							$N_s P_\beta B_i R_i P_c p K' E_i F R_a H_i H_i P$	I→S
							$N_s B_i p K' R_a H_i H_i$	I→T
							$N_s R_a$	V→T
							$N_s R_a$	T→V
							$B_i P_c F R_a P$	V→G
							$pK'$	V→I
							$pK'$	I→V
	116				0.198		$pK'$	I→V
	132	0.974					$pK'$	I→M
							$pK'$	M→I
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	I→L
	136	0.836						
	157		0.817					
	170		0.81				$P_a P_c P$	A→G
							$P_a P_c P$	A→S
							$P_a P_c P$	S→A
	175	0.952					$P_a P_c P$	A→G
							$B_i R_i P_c p K' F M_v V^0 R_a H_i H_i P$	I→G
							$B_i P_c F R_a P$	V→G
							$p K' R_a$	I→A
							$p K'$	I→V
							$p K'$	L→I
	178			0.04	0.03	320.78	$P_\beta$	V→A
							$p K'$	I→V
							$p K'$	V→I
							$p K'$	I→L
	182	0.859					$P_\beta$	V→A
							$p K'$	V→I
							$p K'$	I→V
	186	0.936		0.135	0.168		$P_a P_c P$	G→A



(Continued Table S6)

Gene	AA <sup>a</sup>	PAML ( $P > 0.8$ ) <sup>b</sup>		Datamonkey <sup>c</sup>			TreeSAAP <sup>d</sup>	
		Site model	Branch-site model	SLAC ( $P < 0.2$ )	FEL ( $P < 0.2$ )	REL ( $P > 50$ )	Amino Acid Properties	AA change
LWS							$P_\alpha$	T→A
							$P_\alpha P_\epsilon P$	A→S
							$P_\beta B P F R_\alpha H_\mu P$	V→S
							$P_\beta B P F R_\alpha P$	V→G
							$P_\beta B R_\gamma P_\epsilon p K' F M_\nu V^0 R_\alpha H_\mu P$	G→I
							$P_\beta B P F R_\alpha P$	V→G
							$P_\beta$	V→A
							$P_\beta$	A→V
							$p K'$	V→I
							$R_\alpha$	V→T
	188	0.884					$P_\alpha P_\epsilon P$	S→A
	216	0.93					$P_\alpha P_\epsilon p_\alpha P$	S→E
							$P_\alpha P_\epsilon P$	S→A
							$P_\alpha P_\epsilon P$	A→S
							$N_\beta B P h E_\mu p R_\alpha H_\mu E_\mu P$	V→N
							$P_\beta$	A→V
							$K^0 P_\epsilon p E P$	A→D
							$P$	D→E
	220		0.99				$R_\epsilon p K' R_\alpha P$	V→C
							$p K'$	V→I
	229	0.886					$R_\epsilon c R_\alpha P$	I→C
							$R_\epsilon c R_\alpha P$	V→C
							$p K'$	I→V
							$p K'$	V→I
	233			0.164	0.041	116.93	$P_\beta$	A→V
							$p K' R_\alpha$	A→I
							$p K'$	V→I
	241			0.173	0.177		$p K'$	L→I
							$p K'$	I→L
	275		0.899				$p K'$	V→I
	279	0.927			0.18	52.53	$P_\beta$	V→A
							$p K'$	I→M
							$p K'$	I→V
							$p K'$	I→L
							$p K'$	L→I
	280		0.994				$p K' R_\alpha$	A→I
	282	0.981					$R_\epsilon c R_\alpha P$	C→I
							$R_\epsilon c p K' R_\alpha P$	C→V
	290	0.987		0.009	0.002	132.98	$N_\beta P_\epsilon p F R_\alpha H_\mu P$	V→S
							$N_\beta p K' R_\alpha H_\mu H_\mu$	I→T
							$N_\beta p K' R_\alpha H_\mu H_\mu$	T→I
							$P_\beta$	V→A
							$R_\epsilon p_\epsilon F R_\alpha H_\mu P$	S→F
							$R_\epsilon p_\epsilon F R_\alpha H_\mu P$	F→S
							$p K'$	V→I
	292				0.134		$P_\beta$	A→V
	321		0.995					
	351	0.967			0.016	87.37	$P_\beta$	V→A
SWSI	15		0.998				$E_\mu$	S→K
	19		0.988					
	37		0.973	0.0241	0.035	290.8	$P_\beta$	V→A
							$K^0$	A→F
							$p K' R_\alpha$	A→I
							$p K'$	I→V
							$p K'$	L→I
	51			0.0181	0.0224	376.22	$P_\alpha P_\epsilon P$	A→G

(Continued Table S6)

Gene	AA <sup>a</sup>	PAML ( $P > 0.8$ ) <sup>b</sup>		Datamonkey <sup>c</sup>			TreeSAAP <sup>d</sup>	
		Site model	Branch-site model	SLAC ( $P < 0.2$ )	FEL ( $P < 0.2$ )	REL ( $P > 50$ )	Amino Acid Properties	AA change
SWS1							$P_{\alpha}N_{\epsilon}K^0pK'a_n$	A→C
							$P_{\alpha'}P_iP$	A→S
							$P_{\alpha}$	A→T
							$P_{\alpha}$	T→A
							$N_{\epsilon}pK'F_{\mu}$	G→C
							$P_{\beta}$	A→V
	76		0.996				$P_{\beta}$	A→V
	83			0.0203	0.0774	119.52	$P_iP_iP$	A→S
							$N_{\epsilon}P_{\beta}B_iP_{\epsilon}FR_{\alpha}H_{\mu}P$	V→S
							$N_{\epsilon}R_{\alpha}$	V→T
							$P_{\beta}$	V→A
							$pK'$	V→I
	149		0.939				$N_{\epsilon}B_iR_{\mu}P_{\epsilon}Fa_nP$	L→S
	157			0.0898	0.0916	122.09	$pK'$	V→I
	179		0.945				$P_{\epsilon}E_i$	Q→G
	194			0.168			$N_{\epsilon}spHt$	N→Y
							$N_{\epsilon}spHt$	Y→N
							$pHi$	K→N
							$FE_{sm}E_i$	H→K
							$a_m$	Y→H
	213			0.158	0.1418		$pK'$	L→I
							$pK'$	I→L
	215			0.0963		83.469	$N_{\epsilon}P_{\beta}B_iR_{\mu}P_{\epsilon}hE_iF$ $P_{\epsilon}paR_{\alpha}H_{\mu}E_iP$	V→D
							$R_{\epsilon}cpK'R_{\alpha}P$	V→C
							$pK'$	I→V
							$pK'$	V→I
	258		0.909				$N_{\epsilon}B_iP_{\epsilon}K'R_{\alpha}H_{\mu}H_i$	I→T
							$pK'$	L→I
	292		0.99					
	293			0.132	0.1184		$P_{\alpha}P_{\epsilon}$	A→S
	322		0.801				$P_{\alpha}$	T→A

**Note:** a: Codons identified by both M8 model and FEL were in bold; b: Codons identified by the site model and branch-site model in PAML with  $P > 0.8$ ; c: Posterior probabilities detected in Datamonkey of which SLAC, FEL and REL; d: Amino Acid Properties and AA change were calculated in TreeSAAP.